PADDY AND RICE—STOCK OF

201. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they are in a position to inform this House the quantity of paddy and rice in stock with the various wholesale paddy and rice dealers and Mills, on 1st Makaram 1117;

(*b*) whether the Government are not obtaining detailed information regarding the stock in hand of wholesalers as stated in Para 5 of the Press Communique published in the Gazette Extra-ordinary dated 31st December, 1941?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) According to the statements received for the week ending 3rd Makaram 1117 from the dealers and Mills within the Municipalities of Ernakulam, Mattancheri, Irinjalakkuda, Trichur, Chittur and Tattamangalam there were about 1,90,122 bags of rice and 87,053 bags of paddy with them.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* May I know, Sir, whether any part of the stock is sold to Travancore?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* There are sales taking place everyday to merchants in Travancore. This is a port for them also.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* May I know whether rice and paddy is allowed to be sold by Travancore to Cochin?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Generally, rice and paddy is not brought from Travancore. It is sold from Cochin port to Travancore.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* People from Malayattur want to sell rice here. They can't sell it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether Government have made any arrangements to get information with regard to the stock from time to time?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* What stock?

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Of paddy and rice with wholesale and retail merchants.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes, there is provision for that.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether Government have made any arrangements to see that large quantities of paddy and rice are not exported from Cochin to places from where it will not be possible for Cochin people to get rice and paddy?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is not the basis on which the scheme is worked. Our Port is for Cochin and Travancore. Whatever goods are brought to the Cochin Port has to be freely given to Travancore people. That principle has been followed. There is no restriction.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether in practice there is obstruction for essential commodities of Travancore to be imported into Cochin State?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* So far as I know, the export of only home-grown paddy from Travancore is restricted.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether tapioca is being imported into Cochin as it was before the declaration of war by Japan?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabnu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes, it is freely imported. Not only that, the supply to Cochin is increasing as also to Bombay and other places.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* May I know out of the one lakh and odd bags, how much of it is in Mattancheri?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is not possible to give exact figure. Our stock here never went below 1,60,000. There may be a difference of some thousands. It may be about 1,60,000.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Most of it is likely to be exported outside Cochin?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* We are getting in also. Yesterday's figure—two lakhs, eleven thousand and odd—is the stock in Mattancheri. And 20 or 29 thousand bags of paddy. I have got all these figures. In other Municipal towns we have 16,834 bags of rice and 97,458 bags of paddy which wlll come to about 64,000 bags of rice. This plus two lakhs and odd in Mattancheri comes to 2,75,000 bags. We have got thus with wholesale merchants in Mattancheri 2,75,000 bags of rice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Has the Government got any idea of the quantity of rice consumed by the whole State in one month?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I have a rough idea of the sales in Mattancheri.

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Have the Government ever attempted to find the average consumption of paddy for the whole State?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* For the whole year we have got. We have to depend upon outside paddy for seven months.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* I want the quantity, the number of bags of rice that will be approximately necessary.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* You may calculate, one *nazhi* per head for 14 lakhs.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Going at that rate, will there be supply for one or two months? Will the Government see that steps are taken to ensure an adequate supply, either by restriction of exports or making facilities outside?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* So far as restriction of export is concerned, we forget one thing. Daily waggon loads of rice are coming from Cocanada and Tanjore. During these two months, we have had only four steamers, carrying about two lakhs of bags from Burma. That is hardly sufficient for two months. We have this year, after the Japan entered into war, been getting freely any number of waggon loads of rice and paddy from Cocanada and Tanjore. The average will come to about five thousand or six thousand bags per day, so far as Cochin is concerned. Then, Trichur is getting paddy in larger quantities than before.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Is the Government sure that that quantity will always be coming?

Mr. President: We are taking active steps to get as many waggons of rice as possible from South India. As many ships as possible are coming from Rangoon and steps have been taken to maintain and fix our supply, in consultation with the Government of India.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi):* Have any steps been taken with any rice selling agents to supply us with a minimum quantity of rice beyond making transport facilities? Has the Government thought it necessary, or have they done anything, to ensure adequate supply?

Mr. President: Every possible step has been taken by arranging with the Controller of Rice in Burma to supply rice regularly.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Have the Government realised that the less they interfered with the merchants, the better it is for the State?

Mr. President: The matter has been fully considered by the Government of India. They consider that there is no case at present to interfere with the merchants.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* May I know whether there is any restriction for the export of home-grown paddy?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* No.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* We cannot get any from Travancore.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* People who have got stock in hand, why should they sell to Travancore? We have not got any excise machinery to stop the sale. Supposing we pass an order to that effect, where is the machinery?

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* I will explain. Here there is a price control. They (the Travancore merchants) are able to offer 4 as. to 8 as. more per bag, and the stockists naturally sell away.

Mr. President: There is also price control in Travancore.

EDUCATIONAL CONCESSIONS TO DEPRESSED CLASS CONVERTS—ORDERS REGARDING

202. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Director of Public Instruction has issued a Circular to the educational institutions in the State dated 7th November 1941, D. Dis. 5324/17 communicating extract from the copy of G. P. dated 20th September 1941, D. Dis. 1480 17;

(*b*) if so, will the Government be pleased to print and place on the table the Government Proceedings referred to in (a) above.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):*

(*a*) No Circular was issued by the Director but a copy of Government Proceedings, dated 20th September 1941 (4th Kanni 1117), D. Dis. 1480/17 forwarded by the Protector of Depressed Classes was communicated to the Inspecting Officers and the Principal, Government Training Institution, for necessary action.

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